

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

UNCLAS STATE 254250

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 254250 ACTION ACCRA MONROVIA OCT 14.

QUOTE: UNCLAS STATE 254250

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: TA/AGR--TRAVEL: TEAM FROM PRAIRIE VIEW A AND M
UNIVERSITY, TEXAS

1. AID HAS GIVEN 211(D) UTILIZATION GRANT TO PVAMU TO STRENGTHEN ITS INSTITUTIONAL COMPETENCE FOR PROVIDING MECHANISM BY WHICH AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY AND PRACTICES CAN BE EFFECTIVELY ADAPTED AND UTILIZED BY SMALL RURAL FARMERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. PVAMU HAS SUCCESSFULLY WORKED WITH DISADVANTAGED MINORITY COMMUNITIES IN TEXAS IN TRANSFERRING FARMING TECHNOLOGY. THE PRAIRIE VIEW APPROACH INITIATES AND FOSTERS A PROCESS BY WHICH THE SMALL FARMER ACCEPTS, UTILIZES AND PERPETUATES AN INNOVATION. THE KEY ELEMENT IN THIS APPROACH IS A LOCAL LEADER CHOSEN FROM THE TARGET POPULATION.

2. IN A SELECT DEVELOPING COUNTRY PVAMU WILL, IN A COLLABORATIVE FASHION, CONSTRUCT AND TEST AN APPROPRIATE MODEL OF A DELIVERY SYSTEM THROUGH WHICH SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY IS TRANSFERRED, ADAPTED AND UTILIZED BY
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SMALL FARMER FOR FOOD PRODUCTION. A CLOSE COOPERATION OF A

SUITABLE INSTITUTION OR AN AGENCY IN THE HOST COUNTRY WILL BE ESSENTIAL. A STUDY AT ONE TO THREE SITES OR VILLAGES OVER A PERIOD OF ABOUT 18 MONTHS WILL BE NEEDED TO TEST THE MODEL. THE GRANT WILL DEFRAID MOST OF THE INCOUNTRY COSTS OF THE STUDIES.

3. TO EXPLAIN AND DISCUSS THE DETAILS OF THE PVAMU EFFORTS AND TO NEGOTIATE POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTRY OFFICIALS, A VISIT OF A PVAMU STAFF TEAM CONSISTING OF DR. F. RICHARDS, DEAN, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE; MR. G. MCELVEEN, EXTENSION SPECIALIST; AND DR. J.B. COLLINS OF DEPARTMENT OF SOILS IS PLANNED TO GHANA AND SIERRA LEON. MISSION CONCURRENCE AND ASSISTANCE ON THE RESPECTIVE TRAVEL IS REQUESTED: ACCRA--ETA. NOV. 14, 76; ETD NOV. 20. APPOINTMENT WITH DR. OBENG, DIRECTOR, SOIL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, KUMASI AND/OR OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IS DESIRED. FREETOWN--ETA NOV. 21, 76; ETD NOV. 27. APPOINTMENT WITH DR. S MATTURI, PRINCIPAL NJALA COLLEGE AND/OR OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IS DESIRED.

4. PVAMU REQUESTS THE COLLABORATOR TO HELP PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO THEIR TEAM TO VISIT SOME VILLAGE(S) TO COLLECT BASIC DATA TO FACILITATE DECISION MAKING ON THE STUDY POSSIBILITIES.

5. PVAMU IS TO PAY FOR INCOUNTRY TRAVEL DURING THIS TRIP.
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